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Bryant et al.

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(54) **STREETLIGHT MOUNTING BASE WITH COLLAR**

USPC 248/188.1, 346.01, 519, 523; 52/40;
362/431

See application file for complete search history.

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
E04H 12/22 (2006.01)
F21V 21/02 (2006.01)
F21W 131/103 (2006.01)
F21V 21/00 (2006.01)

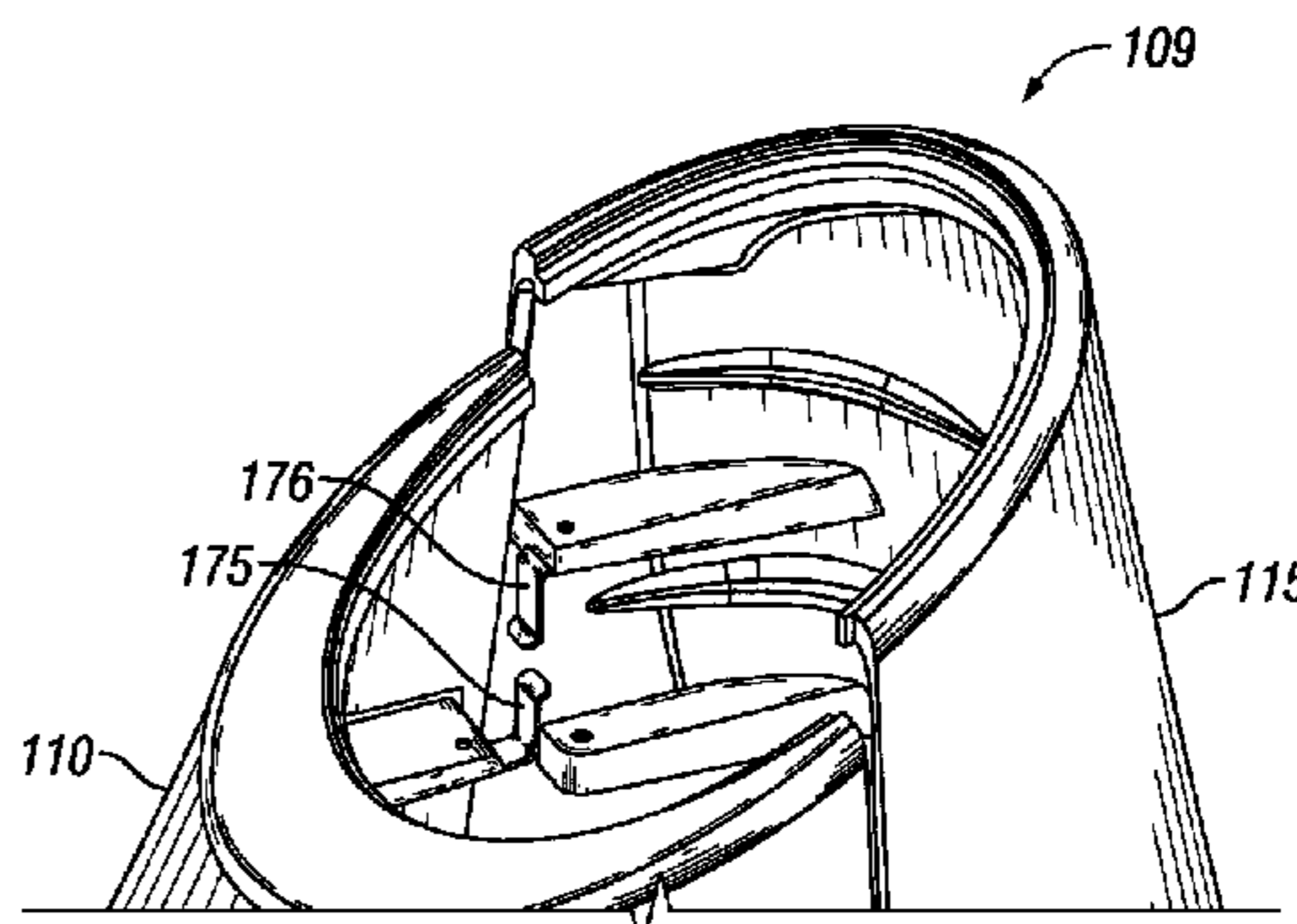
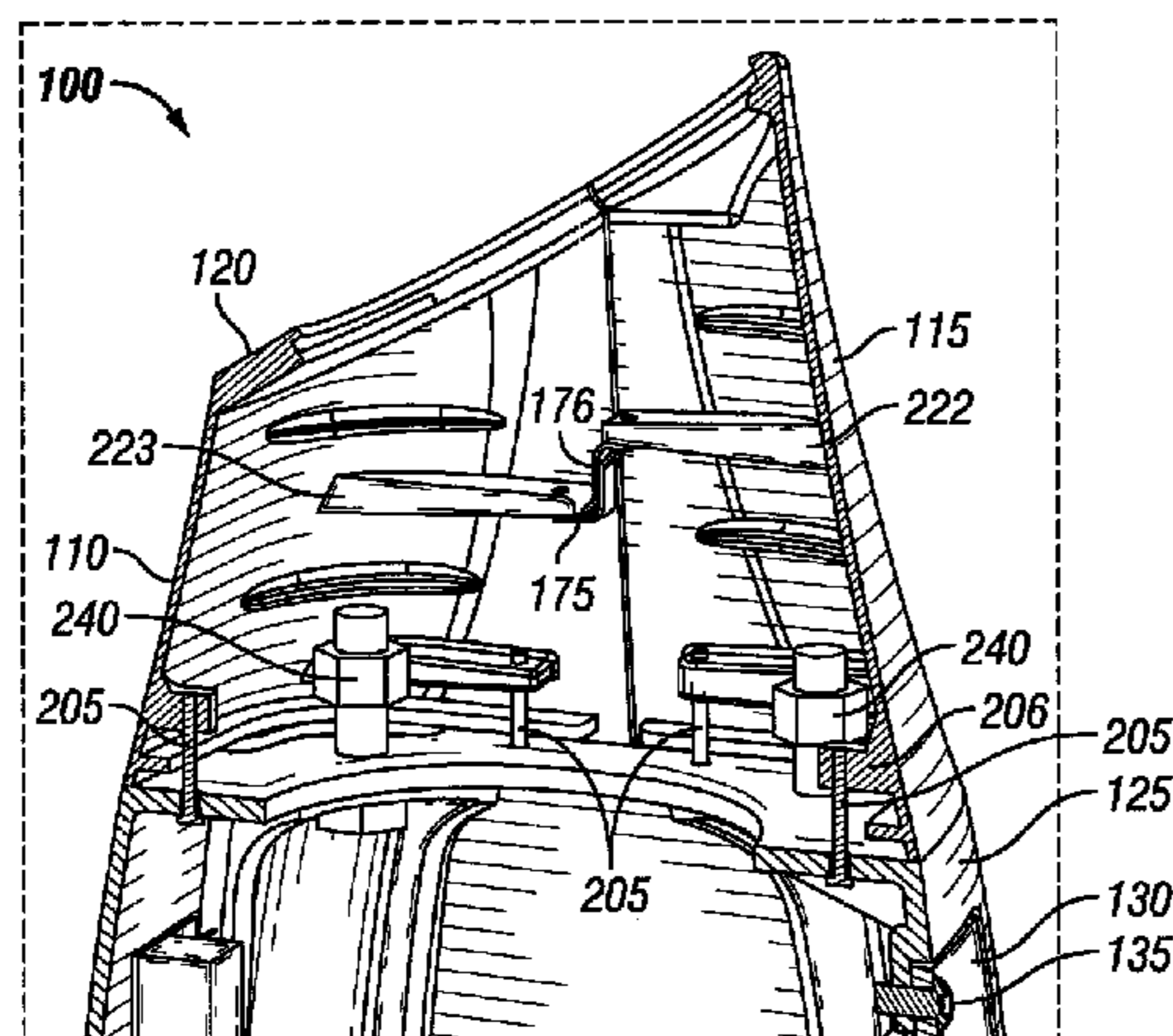
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A streetlight mounting system can fix a streetlight pole to a street side surface, such as a slab of concrete or a sidewalk. The system can comprise a base that attaches on one end to the street side surface and on the other end to the streetlight pole. A collar can provide a transition between the base and the streetlight pole. The collar can have a top that is slanted to shed water. The collar can comprise multiple elements that are urged together by clips. The clips and other fasteners that hold the streetlight pole, the collar, and the base together can be hidden from view, with access provided by a door in the base.

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18 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets



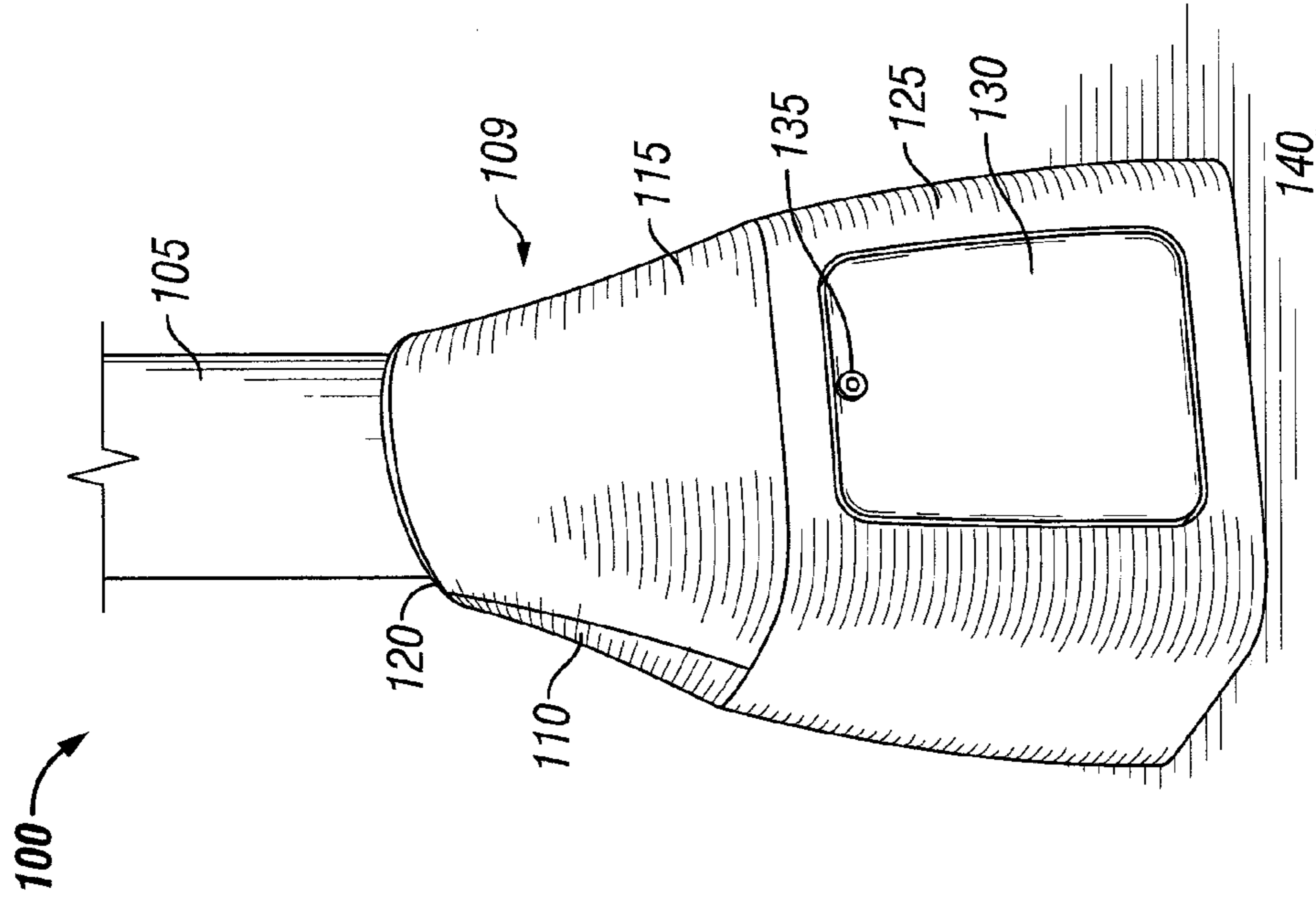


FIG. 1A

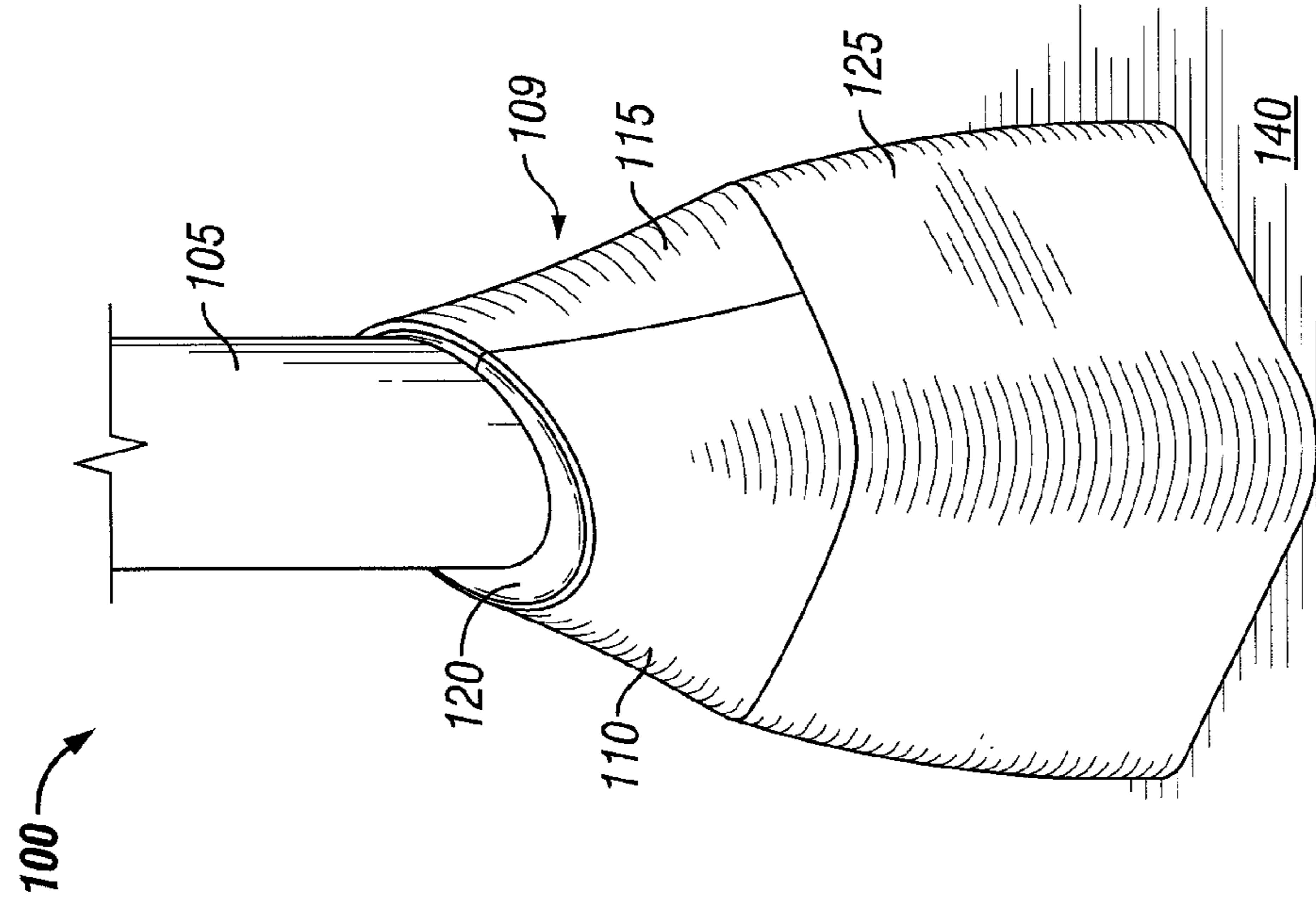


FIG. 1B

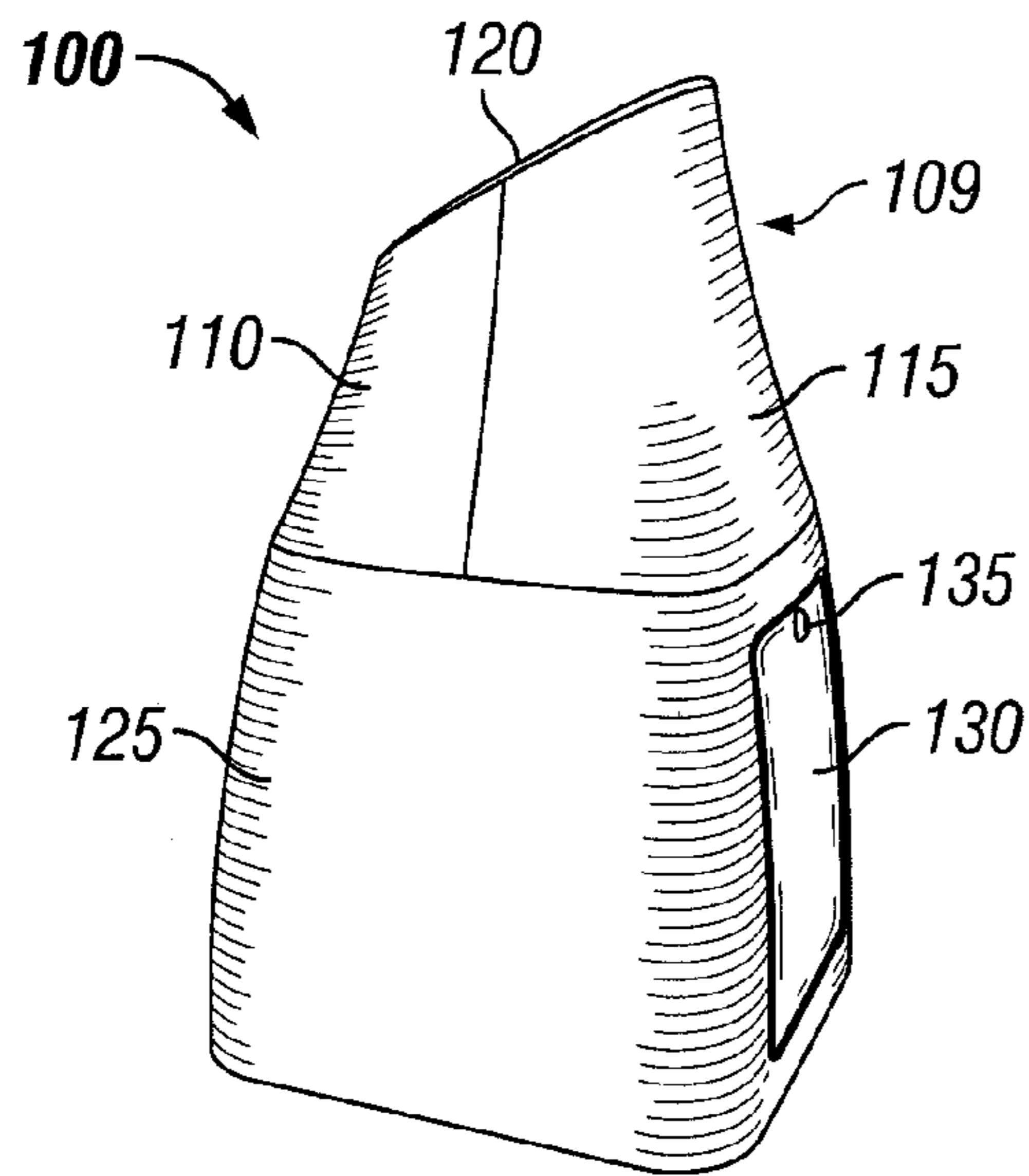


FIG. 2A

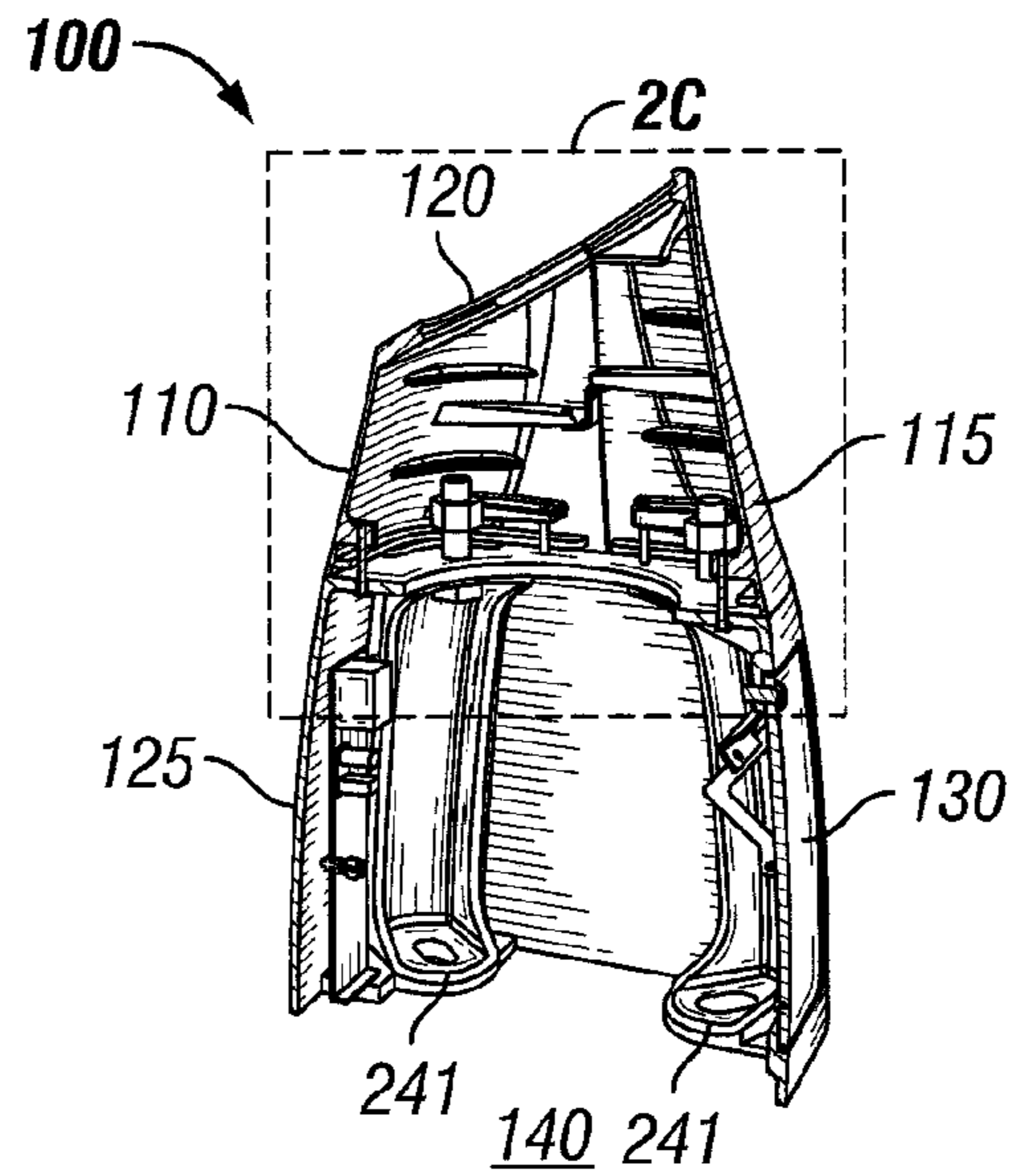


FIG. 2B

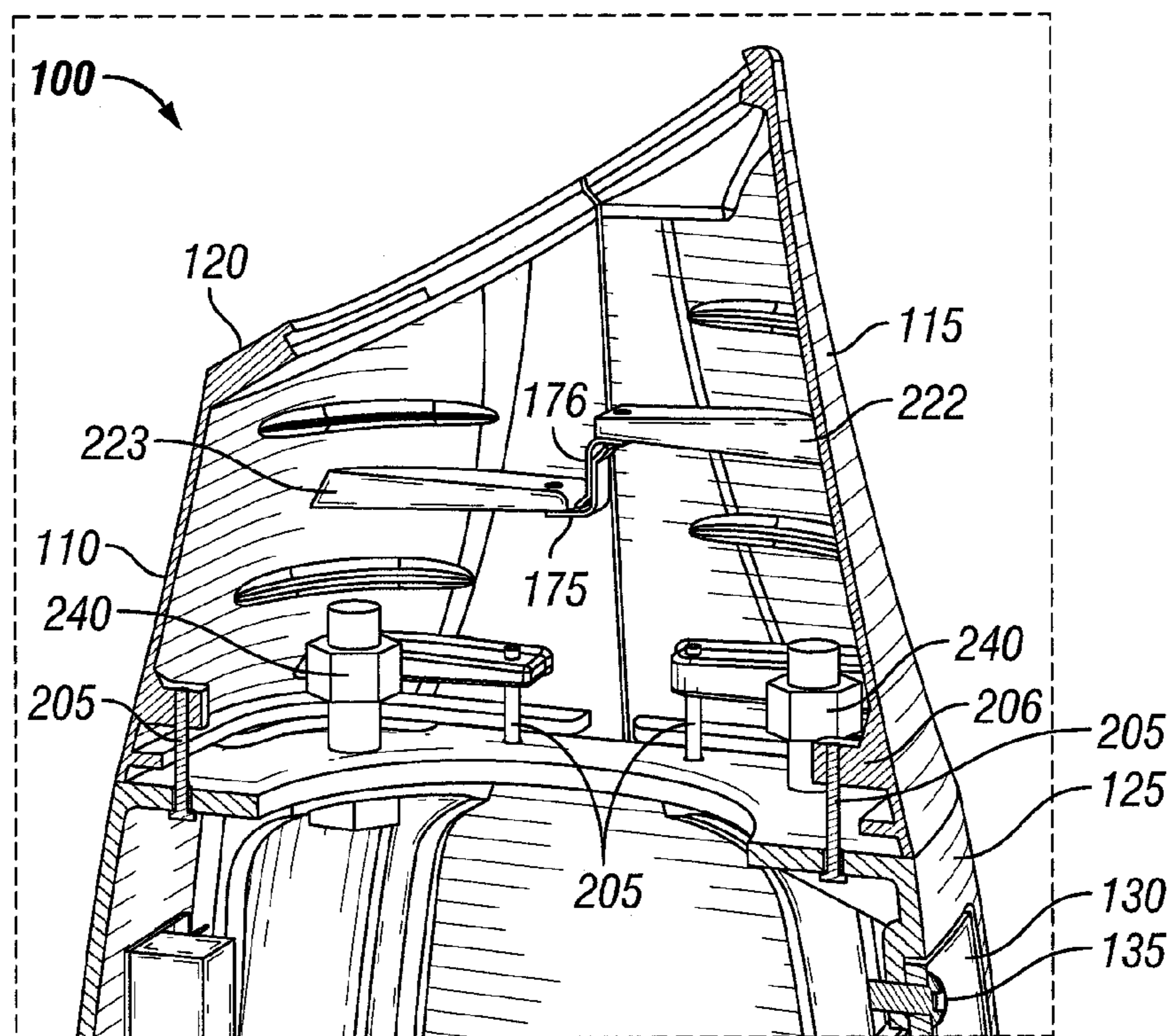


FIG. 2C

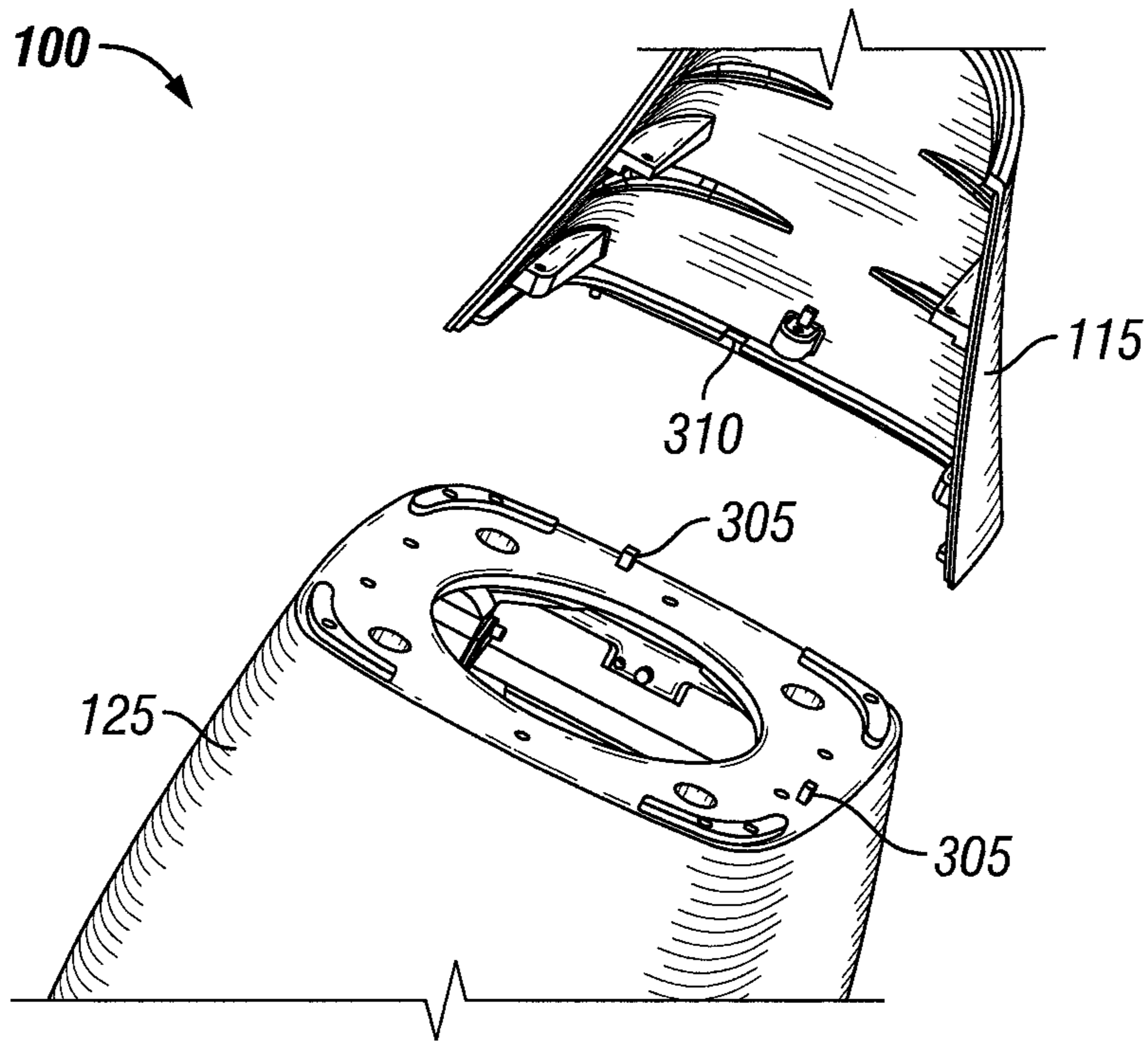


FIG. 3A

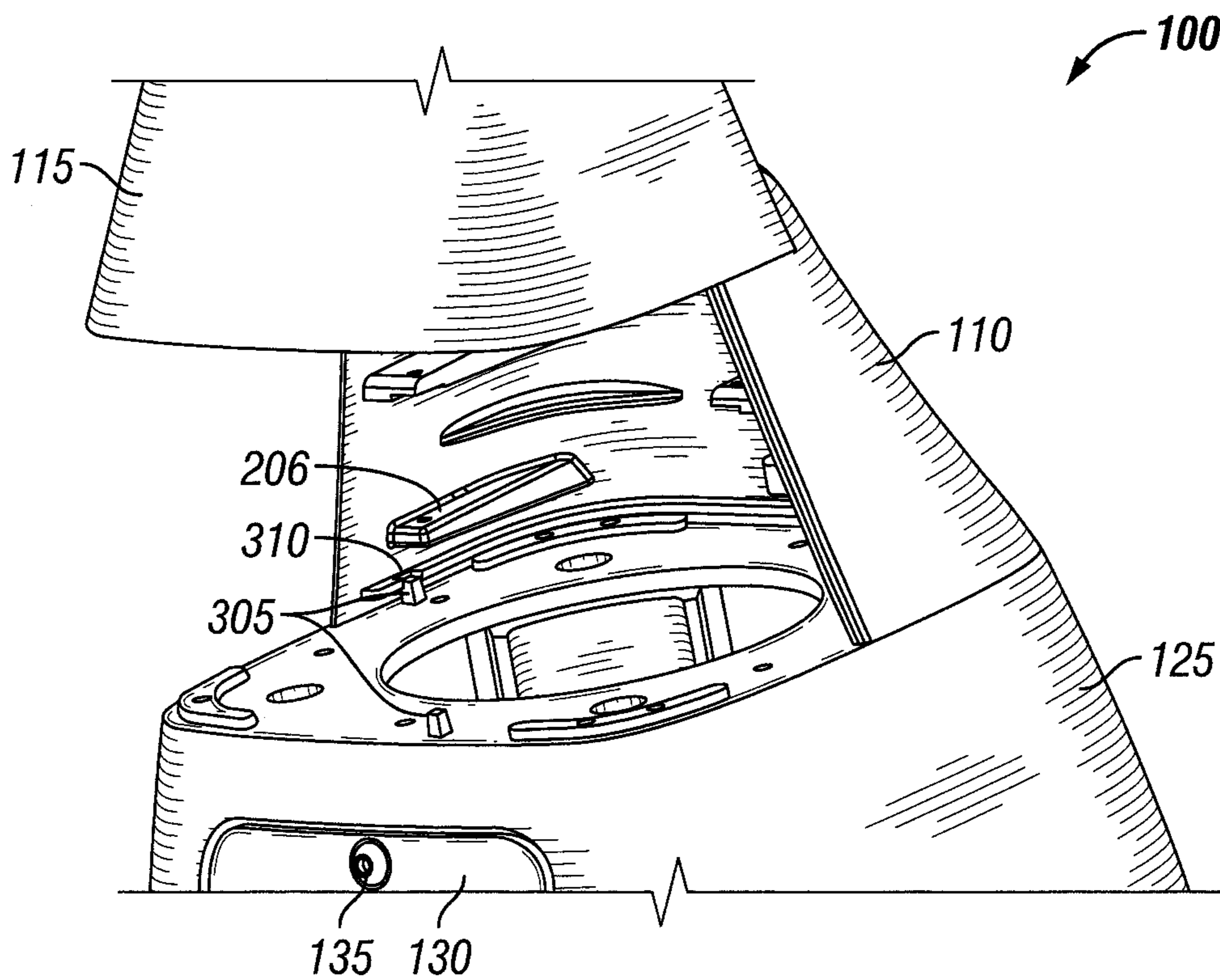


FIG. 3B

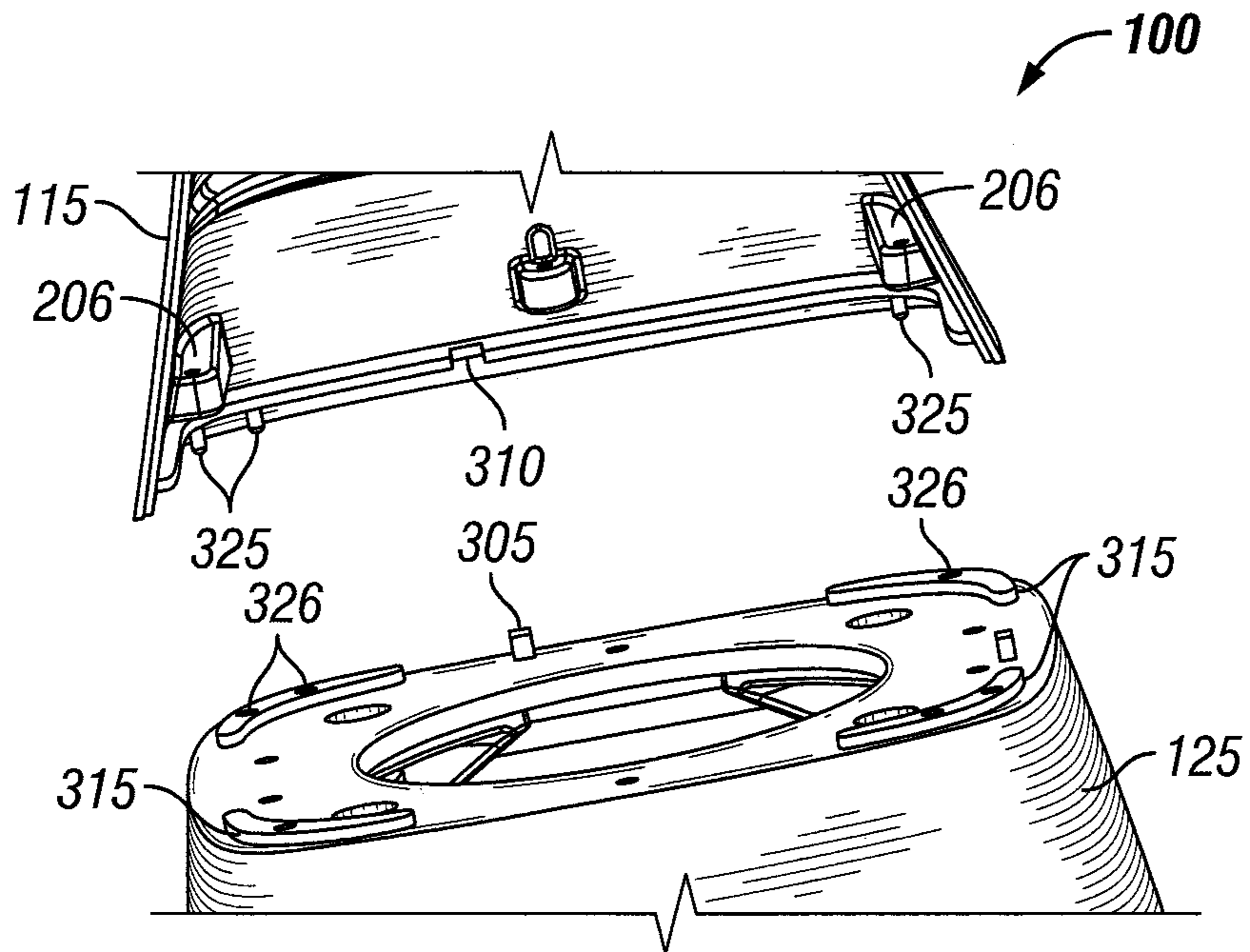


FIG. 3C

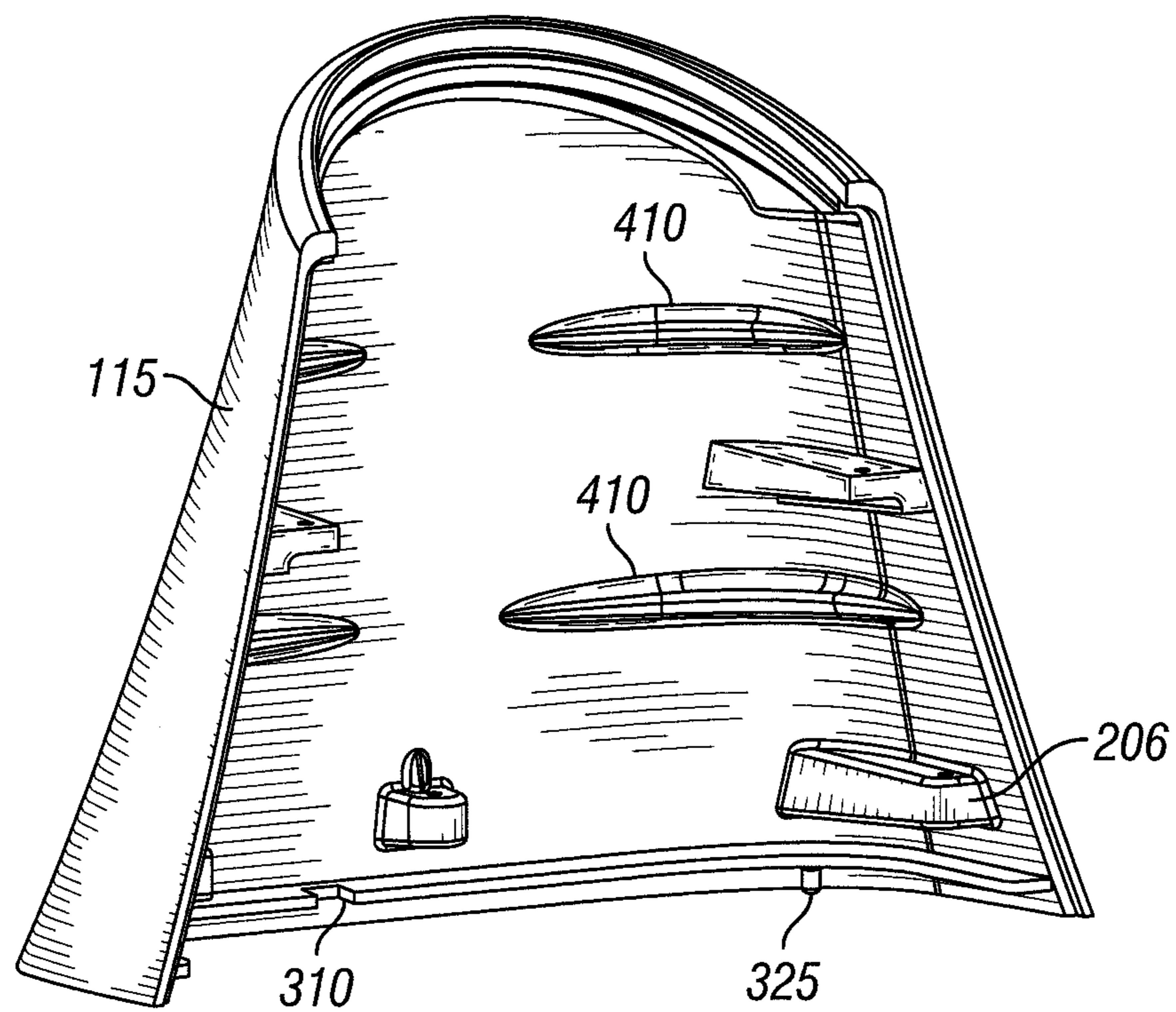


FIG. 4

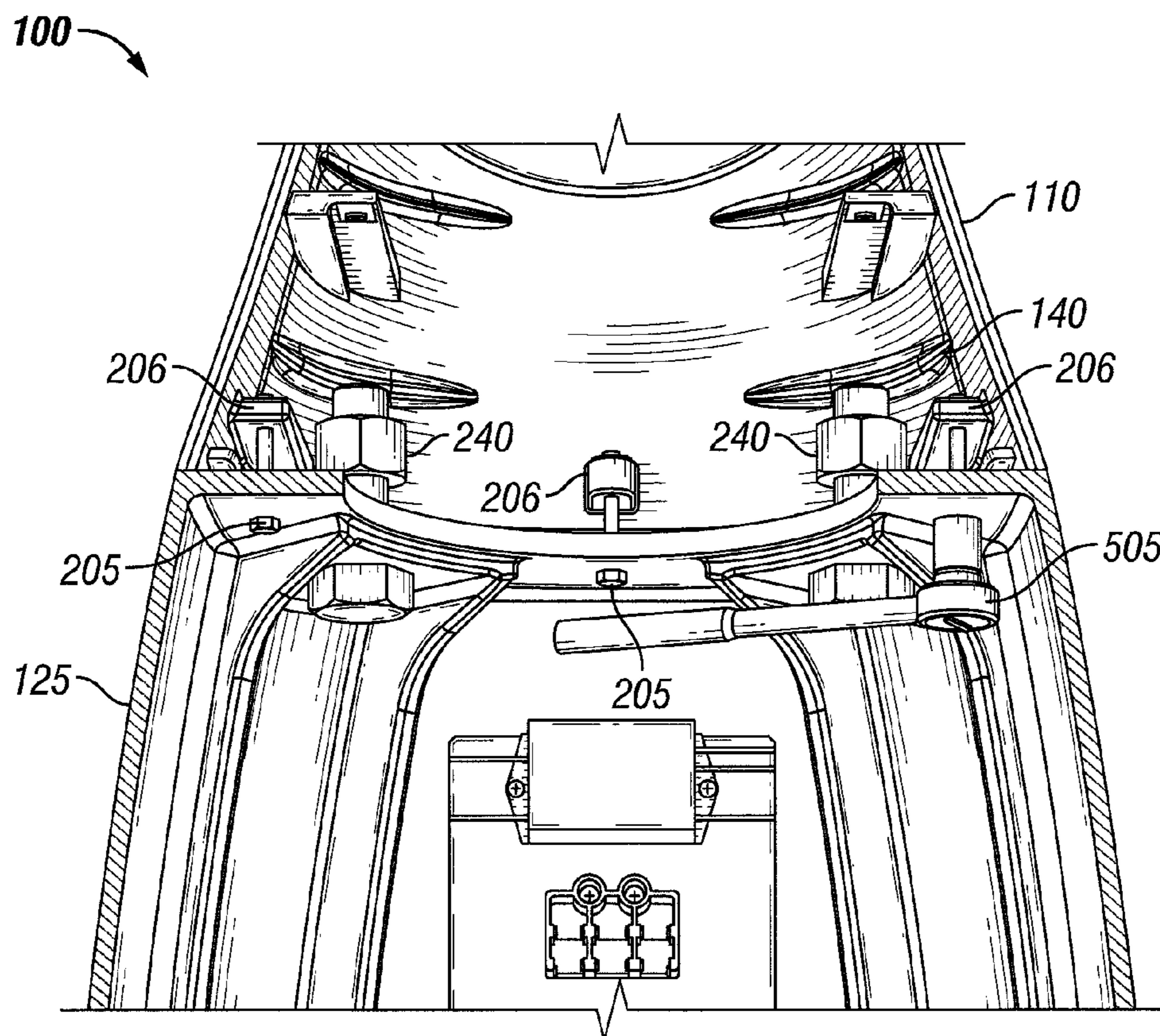


FIG. 5A

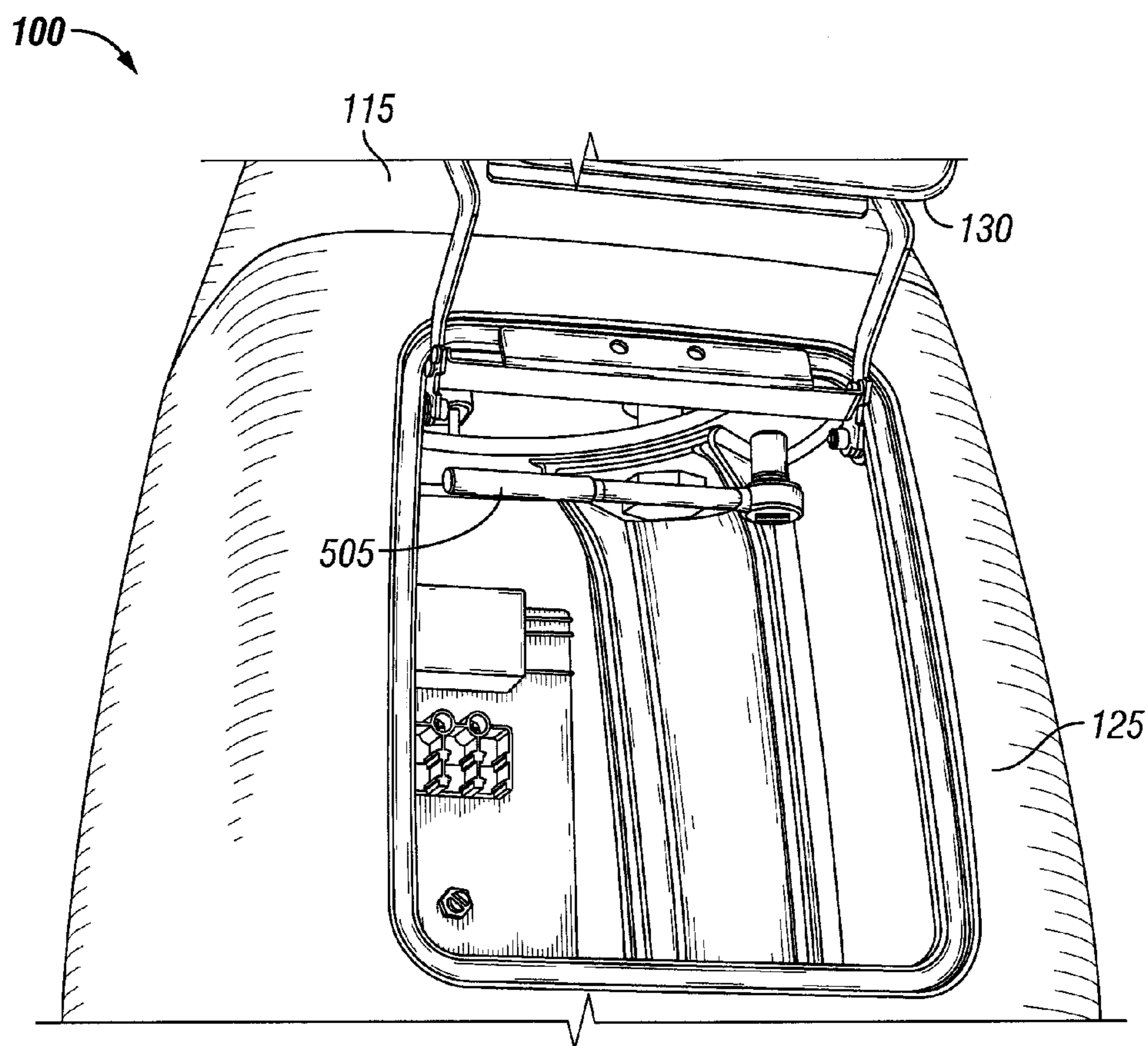


FIG. 5B

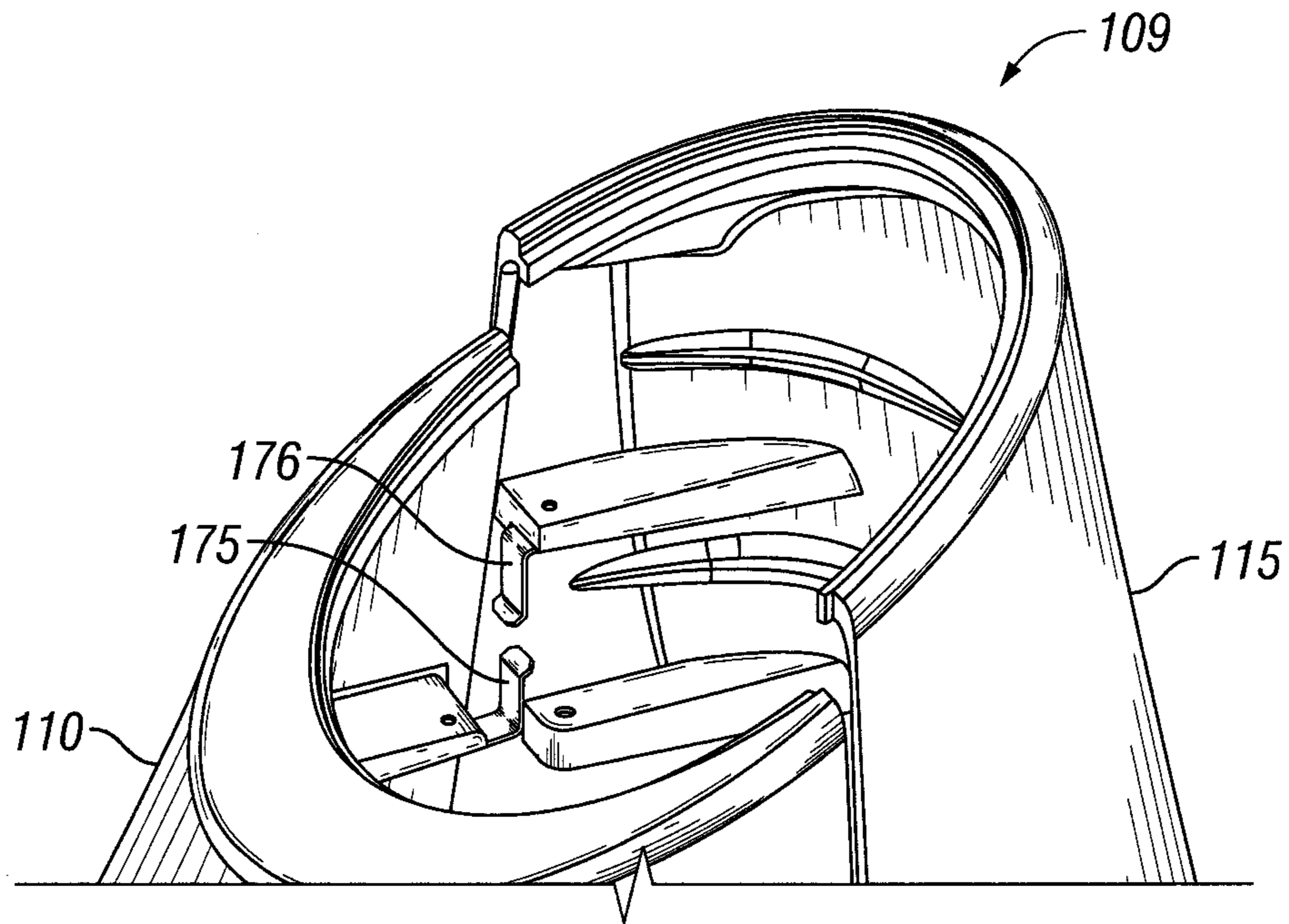


FIG. 6A

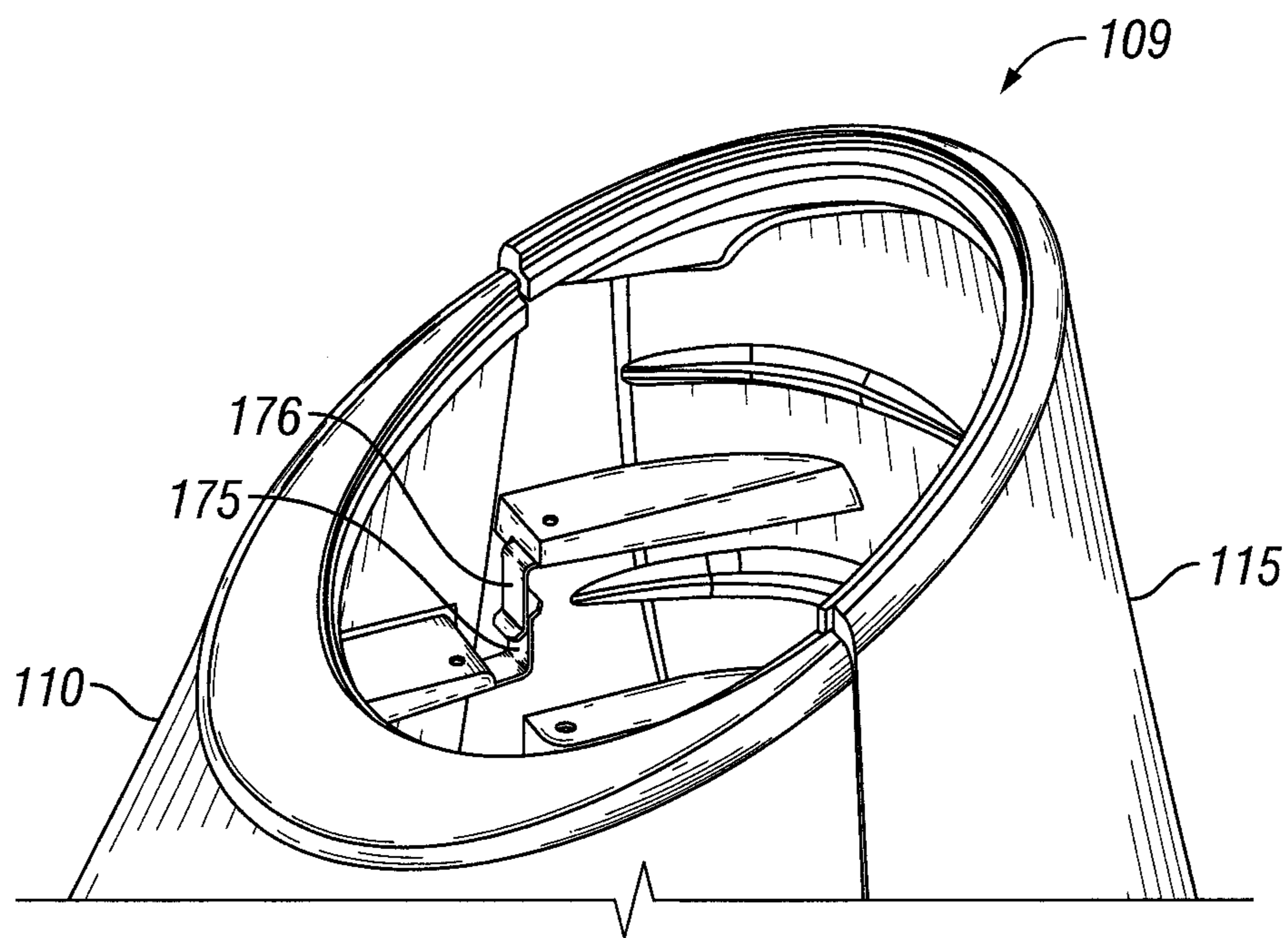


FIG. 6B

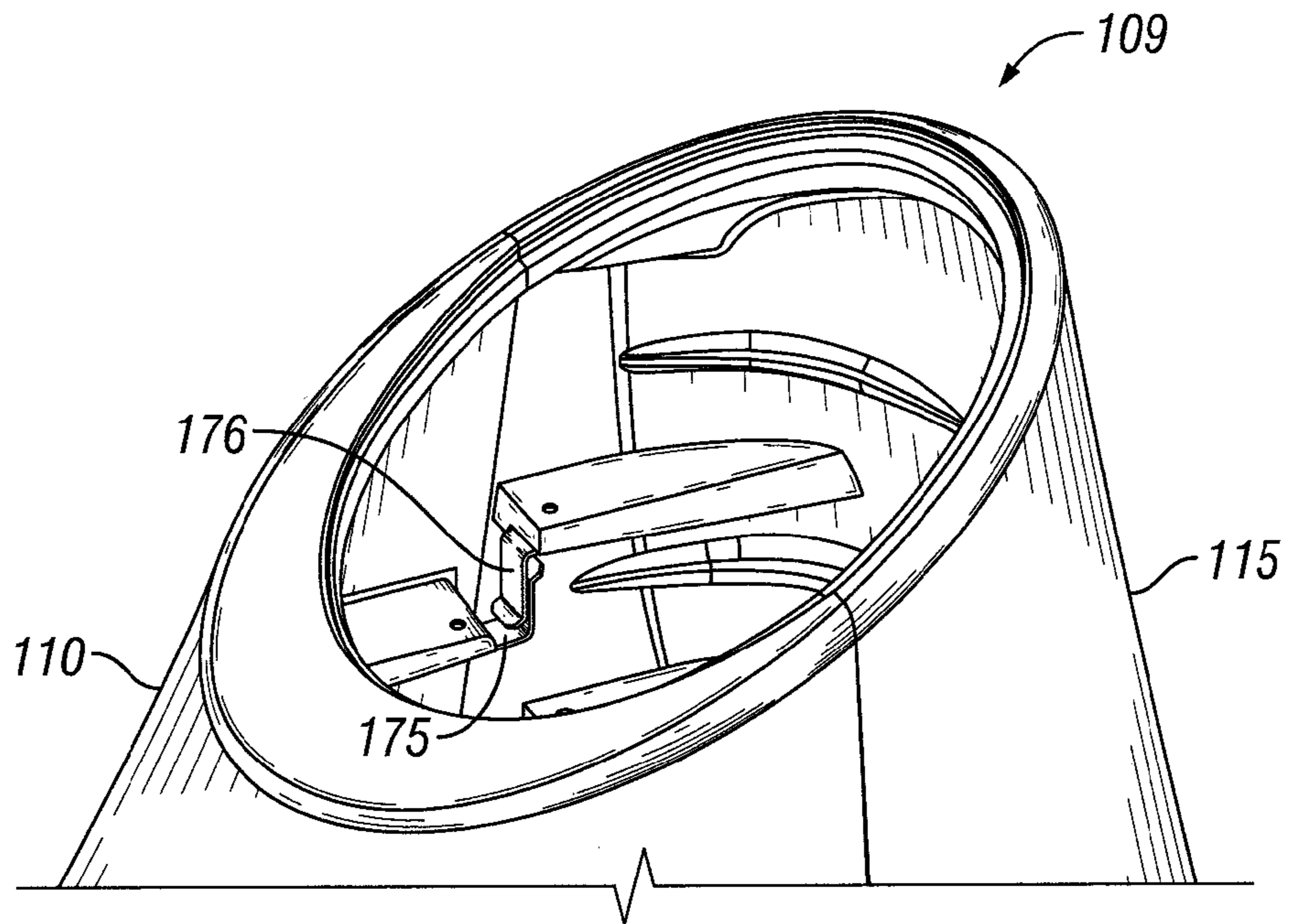


FIG. 6C

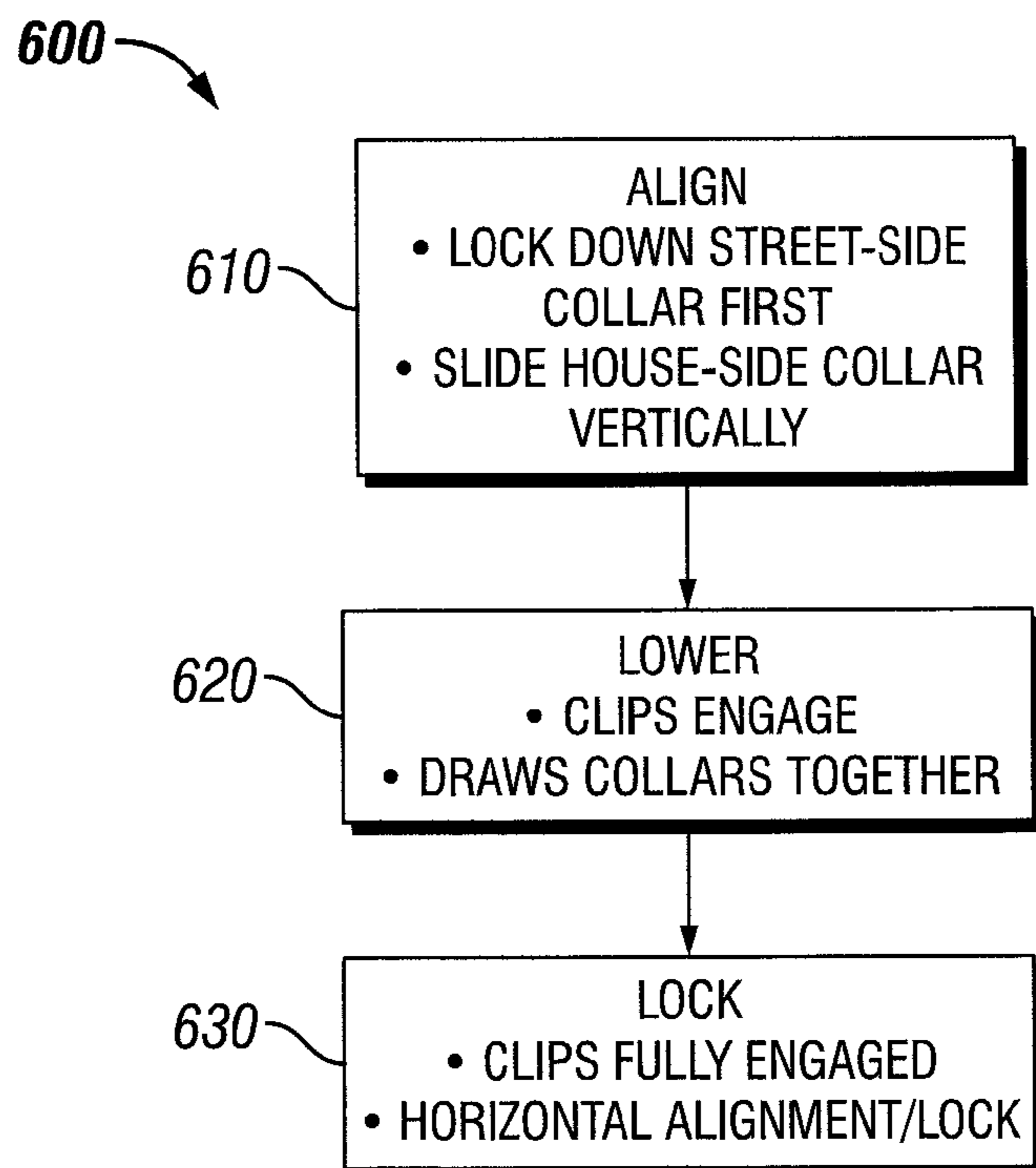


FIG. 6D

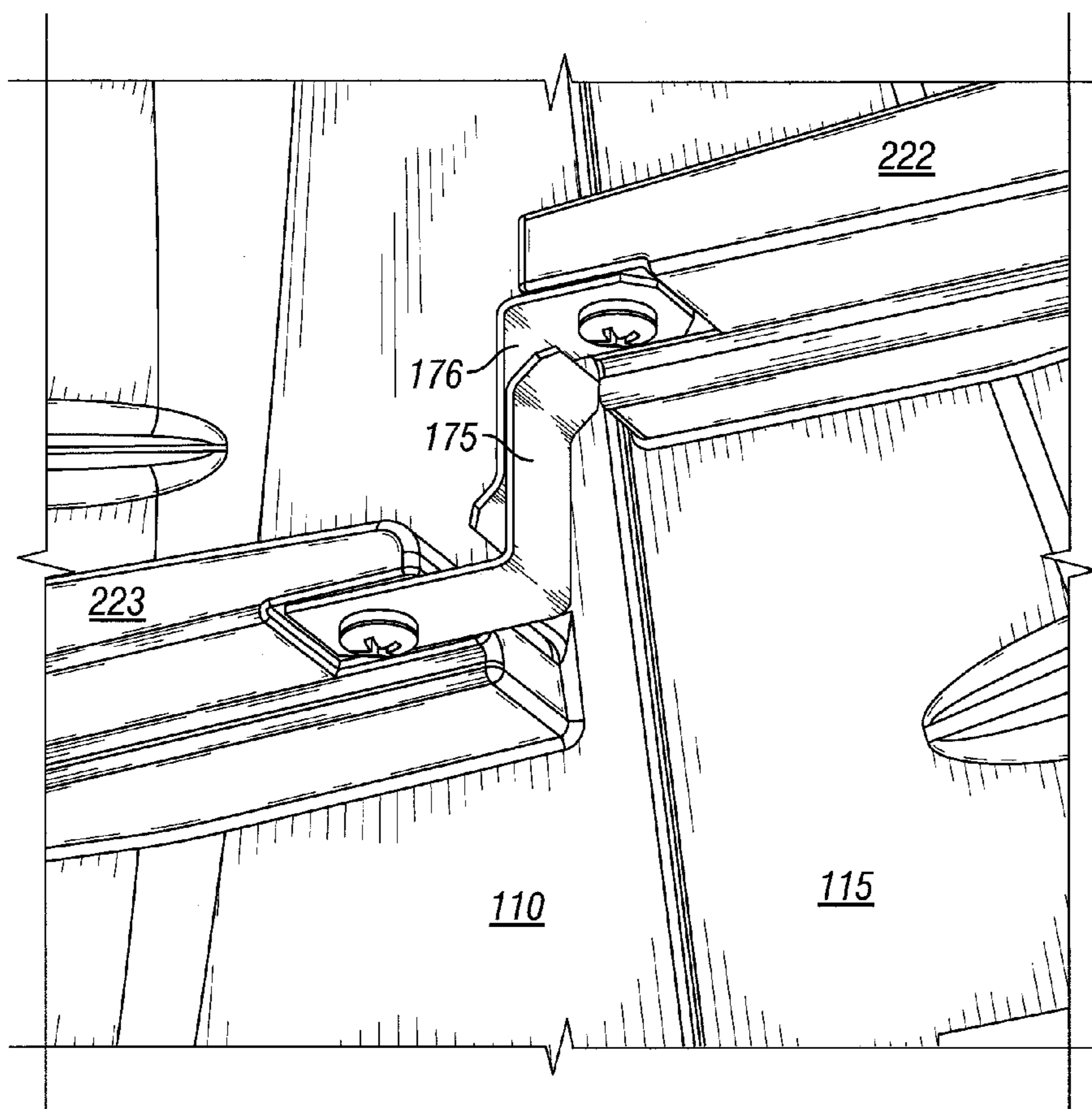


FIG. 6E

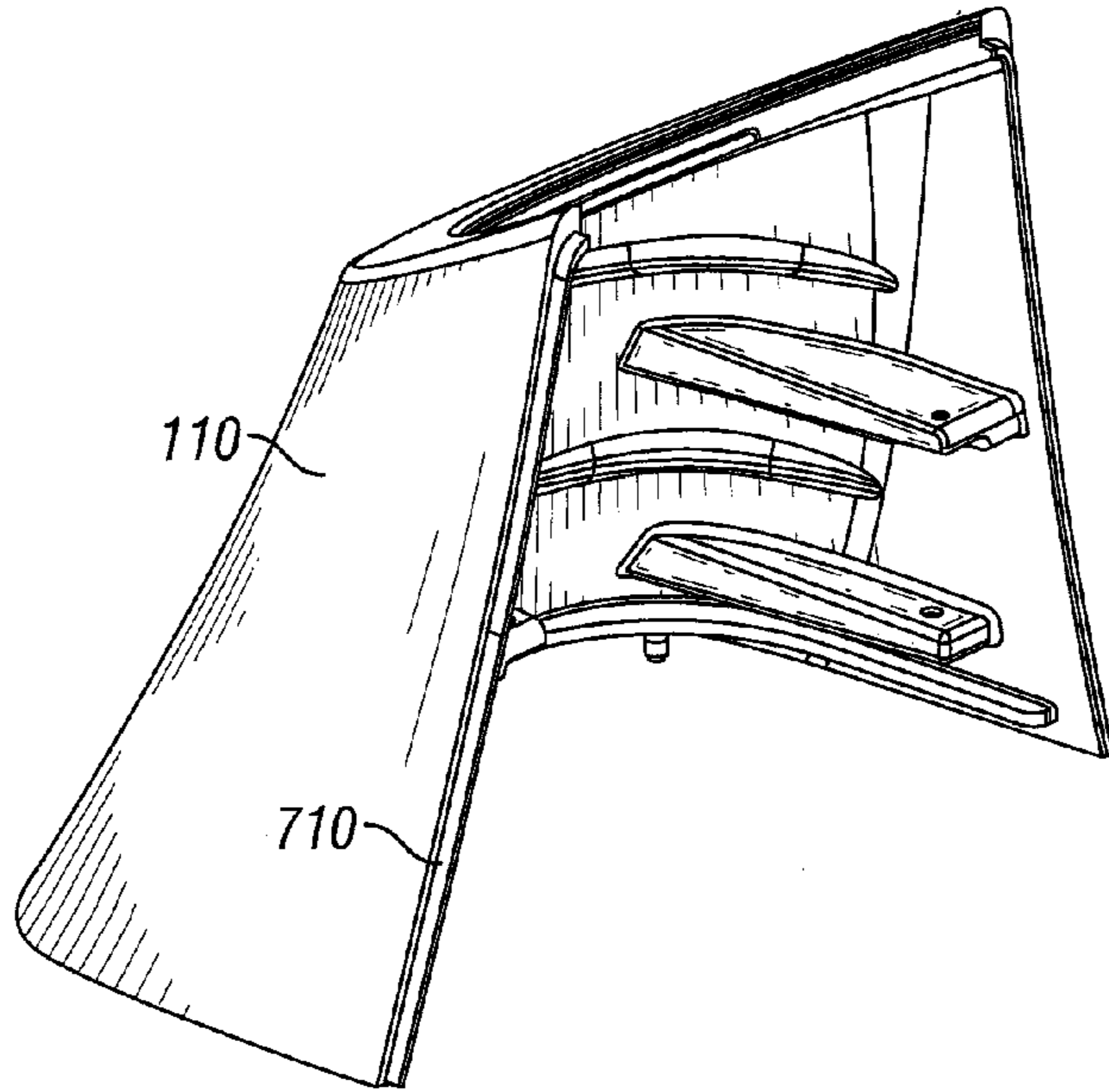


FIG. 7A

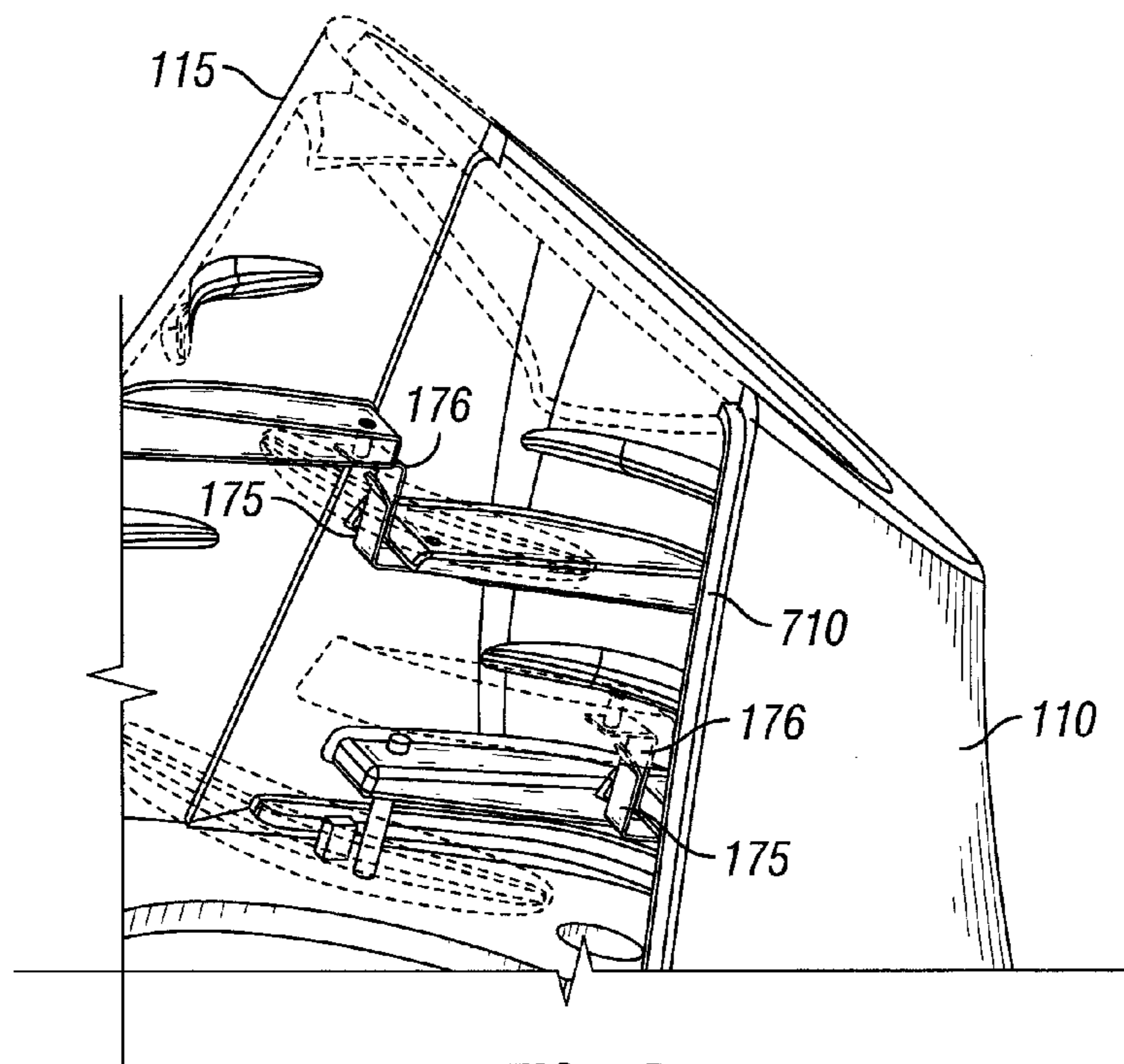


FIG. 7B

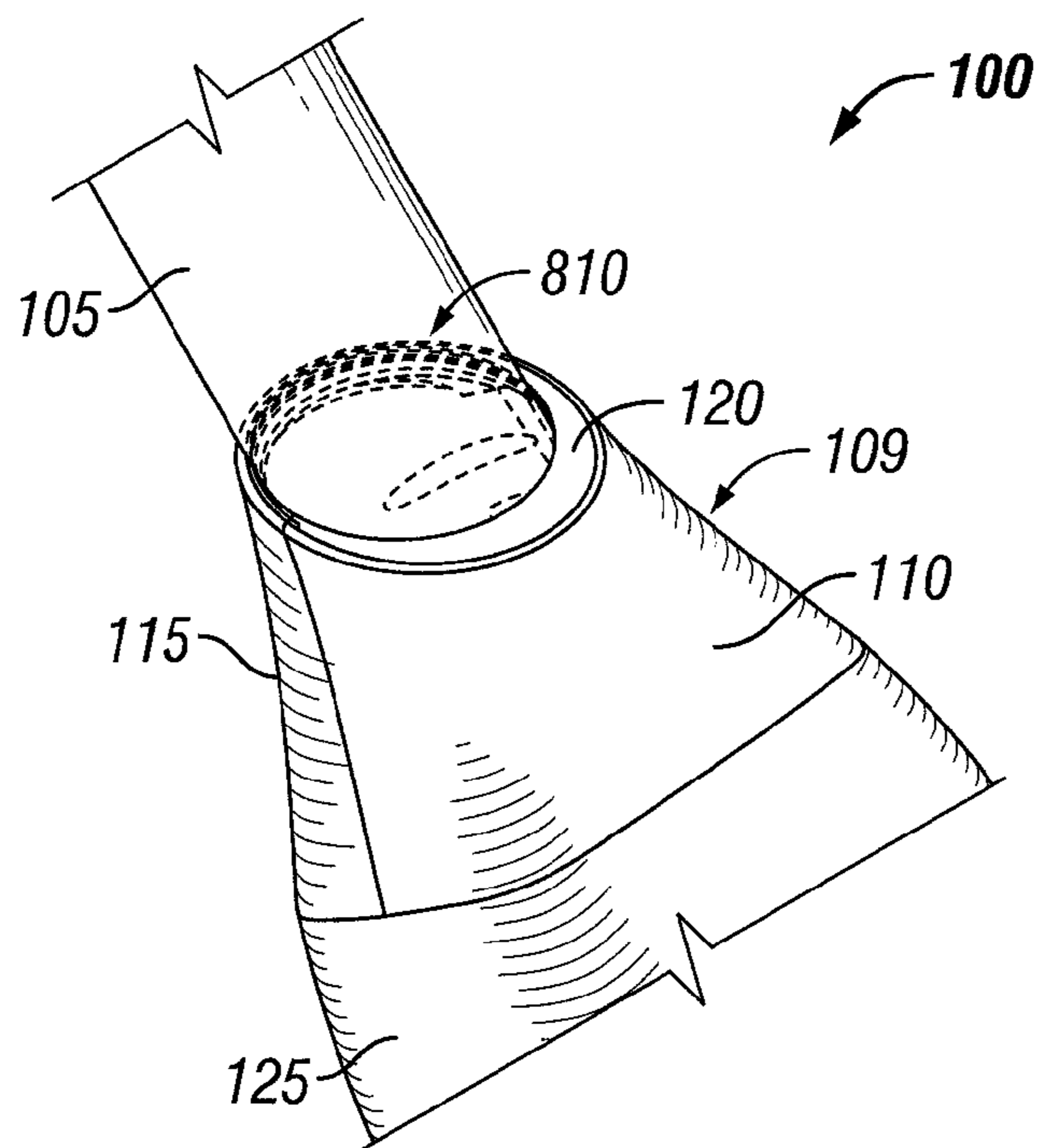


FIG. 8A

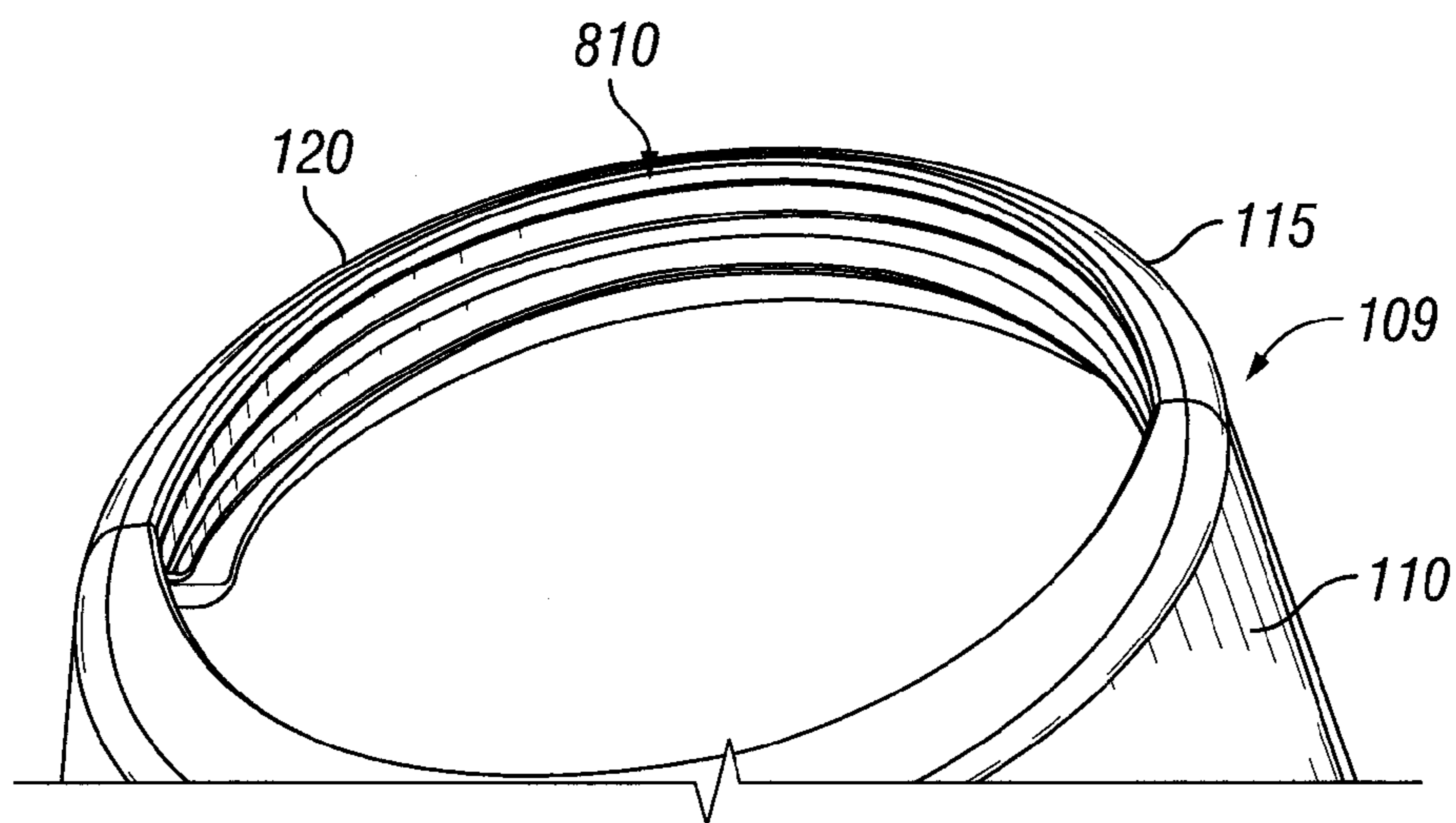


FIG. 8B

1

STREETLIGHT MOUNTING BASE WITH COLLAR

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/828,939 filed May 30, 2013 in the name of Christopher Michael Bryant and Khurram Zeshan Moghal and entitled "Streetlight Mounting System," the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE TECHNOLOGY

The present technology relates to streetlights and more particularly to a system for mounting a streetlight pole to a horizontal surface.

BACKGROUND

Streetlights are often positioned adjacent or above an area to be illuminated. Utilizing conventional mounting approaches, such streetlights are often cumbersome or inefficient to mount and/or service. Often conventional mounting systems are bulky and/or unsightly and may be prone to ingress of water or other environmental issues.

Improved technology for mounting streetlights is needed. A capability addressing such need, or some other related deficiency in the art, would support economically providing illumination to streets and other areas.

SUMMARY

A streetlight mounting system can comprise a base and a system for mounting a streetlight pole to the base. The base can be fixed to the ground or other appropriate surface near an area to be illuminated. The system for mounting the streetlight pole to the base can comprise fasteners, for example bolts, that fasten the streetlight pole to the base, at least two collar sections, and a clip system for holding the collars together about the pole. A first of the collar sections can extend adjacent a first circumferential portion of the streetlight pole, while a second of the collar sections can extend adjacent a second circumferential portion of the streetlight pole. The clip system can comprise a first clip attached to the first collar section and a second clip attached to the second collar section. The first clip and the second clip can be configured to engage one another to urge the first collar section and the second collar section together about the streetlight pole.

In certain embodiments, the first clip and the second clip can be L-shaped and comprise spring steel, for example spring tempered stainless steel.

In certain embodiments, the first collar section comprises a first groove adjacent the first circumferential portion of the streetlight pole, the second collar section comprises a second groove adjacent the second circumferential portion of the streetlight pole, and the streetlight mounting system further comprises gasket material disposed in the first and second grooves. In certain embodiments, the streetlight mounting system further comprises additional gasket material disposed between the first and second collar sections.

In certain embodiments, the streetlight mounting system comprises a means for locating the collar sections relative to the base. In one example, the base can comprise at least one protrusion, with the first collar section comprising at least one aperture sized to receive the at least one protrusion for align-

2

ing the first collar section with the base. The base may further comprise at least one more protrusion, with the second collar section comprising at least one more aperture sized to receive the at least one more protrusion for aligning the second collar section with the base. As another example, the first and second collar sections can comprise a plurality of protrusions with the base comprising a plurality of apertures sized according to the plurality of protrusions for aligning the first and second collar sections with the base.

In certain embodiments, an uppermost portion of the first collar section and an uppermost portion of the second collar section can collectively circumscribe the streetlight pole at an acute angle relative to an axis of the streetlight pole. The acute angle may facilitate shedding rain water.

In certain embodiments, when the streetlight mounting system is in an operational configuration, all fasteners that couple the first collar section, the second collar section, the base, and the streetlight pole together can be hidden from view.

In certain embodiments, a flange on the streetlight pole can bolt to the base.

In certain embodiments, the first collar section and the second collar section can comprise inward facing ribs that enhance structural integrity.

The foregoing discussion of managing streetlight mounting is for illustrative purposes only. Various aspects of the present technology may be more clearly understood and appreciated from a review of the following text and by reference to the drawings and the claims that follow. Other aspects, systems, methods, features, advantages, and objects of the present technology will become apparent to one with skill in the art upon examination of the following drawings and text. It is intended that all such aspects, systems, methods, features, advantages, and objects are to be included within this description, covered by this application, and protected by the accompanying claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGS. 1A and 1B (collectively FIG. 1) illustrate a representative streetlight mounting system in two views according to some example embodiments of the present technology.

FIGS. 2A, 2B, and 2C (collectively FIG. 2) provide a cutaway view of the streetlight mounting system illustrating representative internal elements according to some example embodiments of the present technology.

FIGS. 3A, 3B, and 3C (collectively FIG. 3) illustrate assembly views of the streetlight mounting system showing representative locating elements that facilitate alignment according to some example embodiments of the present technology.

FIG. 4 provides an internal view of a collar of the streetlight mounting system showing ribs that enhance mechanical integrity according to some example embodiments of the present technology.

FIGS. 5A and 5B (collectively FIG. 5) provide views of the streetlight mounting system illustrating representative fastening elements according to some example embodiments of the present technology.

FIGS. 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, and 6E (collectively FIG. 6) describe a representative assembly process for the streetlight mounting system in which representative clips engage with one another to urge two collar sections together, around the streetlight pole, according to some example embodiments of the present technology.

FIGS. 7A and 7B (collectively FIG. 7) illustrate water shedding features between the two collar sections of the street-

flight mounting system according to some example embodiments of the present technology.

FIGS. 8A and 8B (collectively FIG. 8) illustrate water shedding features between the streetlight pole and the two collar sections of the streetlight mounting system according to some example embodiments of the present technology.

Many aspects of the technology can be better understood with reference to the above drawings. The elements and features shown in the drawings are not necessarily to scale, emphasis being placed upon clearly illustrating the principles of exemplary embodiments of the present technology. Moreover, certain dimensions may be exaggerated to help visually convey such principles.

DESCRIPTION OF EXAMPLE EMBODIMENTS

A streetlight mounting system can securely mount a streetlight pole in a position adjacent a street or other area to be illuminated. One or more light sources attached to the pole can emit light to provide illumination. The light sources may be based on high energy discharge, incandescent, or light emitting diode technology, for example. The streetlight pole can be mounted in an upright position. In certain embodiments, the streetlight pole can be mounted to tilt or mounted horizontally, for example.

The present technology can be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein; rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete, and will fully convey the scope of the technology to those having ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, all “examples,” “embodiments,” “example embodiments,” or “exemplary embodiments” given herein are intended to be non-limiting and among others supported by representations of the present technology.

Technology for mounting streetlights will now be described more fully with reference FIGS. 1-8, which describe representative embodiments of the present technology and illustrate various elements and views of a representative streetlight mounting system.

FIGS. 1A and 1B illustrate two views of a representative streetlight mounting system 100. The illustrated street light mounting system 100 comprises a base 125 that is fixed to a surface 140 near an area to be illuminated, a collar 109, and a streetlight pole 105.

The surface 140 to which the base 125 may be mounted may comprise a concrete slab, a sidewalk, or other suitable structure, for example. FIG. 2B, discussed below, illustrates a representative mounting facility.

The collar 109 comprises two collar sections 110, 115 that together circumscribe the pole 105. Other collar embodiments, may have three or four or some other appropriate number of collar sections. In certain embodiments, the collar 109 may be a unitary structure that seamlessly circumscribes the pole 105.

In certain embodiments, the collar sections 110, 115 are formed of cast aluminum or another appropriate metal. However, other materials may be utilized singularly or in combination. In certain embodiments, the collar sections 110, 115 are formed of plastic, fiberglass, or an appropriate composite material, for example.

The uppermost portion 120 or top of the collar sections 110, 115 are angled to facilitate water shedding. In other words, the distal end of the collar 109 is oriented at an acute angle relative to the longitudinal axis of the streetlight pole 105. The resulting angle can promote runoff of rain water and debris.

In a typical installation, the streetlight mounting system 100 can be oriented so that the uppermost portion 120 of the collar 109 is angled toward the street. In this orientation, runoff water tends to flow towards and ultimately into a gutter on the street.

As discussed in further detail below, a system of fasteners holds together the base 125, the collar sections 110, 115, and the pole 105. The fasteners are enclosed within the structure and hidden from external view, but readily accessible via a door 130 on the base 125. Having the fasteners internal to the streetlight mounting system 100 avoids tampering and debris collection and further offers aesthetic benefit. A separate fastener 135 holds the door 130 shut.

In a typical installation, the streetlight mounting system 100 can be oriented so that the door 130 opens away from the street. This orientation facilitates access with the streetlight between the service personnel and the street.

Referring now to FIG. 2, FIG. 2B provides a cutaway view of the streetlight mounting system 100, taken with the streetlight mounting system 100 in the orientation depicted in FIG. 2A, cutting vertically through the two collar sections 110, 115. FIG. 2C provides an expanded view showing internal elements of the collar sections 110, 115.

Each of the collar sections 110, 115 has two attached clips 175, 176. The clip 176 is screwed to the boss 222 on the collar section 115, while the clip 175 is screwed to the boss 223 on the collar section 110. The clips 175, 176 can be made of spring stainless steel or other suitable material, for example. In the illustrated embodiment, each clip 175, 176 is attached in a collar section recess using a single fastener, with the recess preventing rotation of the clip 175, 176 about the axis of the fastener.

As will be further discussed below, the clips 175, 176 of the two collar sections 110, 115 engage one another and urge the collar sections 110, 115 together about the street light pole 105 (as illustrated in FIG. 1).

Collar mounting bolts 205 attach the collar sections 110, 115 to the base 125. In the illustrated example embodiment, the collar mounting bolts 205 extend through holes in the top of the base 125 and screw into threaded holes in bosses 206 of the collar sections 110, 115.

Larger bolts 240 (two shown) attach the streetlight pole 105 to the base 125. The bolts 240 may protrude through and engage a flange (not illustrated) on the lower end of the streetlight pole 105, for example. While depicted with the threaded section portion vertically oriented, in some embodiments, the bolts 240 may be inverted. Additionally, washers may be deployed with the bolts 240.

The lower portion of the base 125 comprises holes 241 for attaching the base 125 to a surface 140 adjacent an area to be illuminated. The base 125 may be mounted to a concrete slab or other structure via bolts or other fasteners (not shown) extending through the holes 241.

Referring now to FIG. 3, FIGS. 3A, 3B, and 3C illustrate assembly views of the streetlight mounting system 100 showing representative locating elements that facilitate alignment of the collar sections 110, 115 to the base 125.

As illustrated, protrusions 305 on the base 125 mate with apertures 310 in the collar sections 110, 115 to facilitate alignment and further to help lock the collar sections 110, 114 in place. In certain embodiments, the protrusions 305 may comprise pins or other locating features.

As illustrated in FIG. 3C the collar sections 110, 115 also contain protrusions 325 that mate with apertures 326 in the base 125. In certain embodiments, the protrusions 325 may comprise pins or other locating features. In the illustrated

5

embodiment, the apertures **326** in the base **125** are in raised platforms **315** on the base **125** that further provide structural integrity and alignment.

FIG. **4** provides an internal view of the collar section **115** of the streetlight mounting system **100**. In the illustrated embodiment, the collar section **115** has internal ribs **410** that enhance mechanical integrity. In the illustrated embodiment, the internal ribs **410** extend substantially perpendicular to the streetlight pole **105**. Thus, in an installation where the streetlight pole **105** is vertical, the internal ribs **410** would be substantially horizontal.

Referring now to FIG. **5**, FIG. **5A** provides a cutaway view of the streetlight mounting system **100**, while FIG. **5B** provides a view with the door **130** open. The door **130** provides access for service personnel to the system of fasteners holding the streetlight pole **150**, the collar sections **110**, and the base **125** together. In the illustrated embodiment, a ratchet wrench **505** inserted through the door **130** readily tightens or loosens the collar mounting bolts **205**, which in some embodiments may have associated washers. Accordingly, the fasteners **205** are hidden from view when the door **130** is shut and the streetlight and the streetlight mounting system **100** are in an operational configuration.

An exemplary process for onsite assembly of the streetlight mounting system will be discussed in further detail below with reference to FIGS. **6A**, **6B**, **6C**, **6D**, and **6E** that describe a representative assembly process for the streetlight mounting system **100**. In various embodiments, the assembly and installation may be performed manually, automatically by machine, or with a combination of manual and mechanized actions, for example.

Certain steps in the processes described herein may naturally precede others for the present technology to function appropriately. However, the present technology is not limited to the order of the steps described if such order or sequence does not alter the functionality of the present technology to the level of rendering the technology inoperative or nonsensical. That is, it is recognized that some steps may be performed before or after other steps or in parallel with other steps without departing from the scope and spirit of the present technology.

In a typical installation, the base **125** is attached to the surface **140** (see FIG. **1**) using bolts or other appropriate means. Next, the streetlight pole **105** is attached to the base **125** as discussed above. Then, the collar **109** may be assembled around the streetlight pole **105** and attached to the base **125** as shown in FIG. **6** and discussed below. Different sequences or processes may be utilized in various embodiments leading up to the steps shown in FIG. **6**, for example. FIG. **6D** illustrates a representative flowchart for an assembly process **600**, while FIGS. **6A**, **6B**, **6C**, and **6E** illustrate physical elements and orientations associated with the assembly process **600**.

The following discussion of the process **600** will refer to certain illustrated elements. However, those of skill in the art will appreciate that various embodiments of process **600** can function with and/or accommodate a wide range of devices, systems, and hardware (including elements illustrated in other figures as well as elements not expressly illustrated) and can function in a wide range of applications and situations. Accordingly, such referenced elements are exemplary, are provided without being exhaustive and without limitation, and are among many others supported by the present technology.

At block **610** of process **600** the collar section **110** (which may be viewed as the street-side collar) is attached or locked down to the base **125** using the collar mounting bolts **205** as

6

discussed above with reference to FIGS. **2** and **5**, inter alia. As also discussed above, a system of locating features facilitates aligning the collar section **110** with the base **125**. Once the collar section **110** is secured to the base **125**, the collar section **115** (which may be viewed as the house-side collar) slides vertically down into position, for example as guided by installation personnel. As illustrated in FIG. **6A**, as the collar section **115** lowers, the clip **176**, which is attached to the collar section **115**, moves towards the clip **175**, which is attached to the collar section **110**.

At block **620** of process **600** and as illustrated in corresponding FIG. **6B**, the clips **175**, **176** engage as the collar section **115** is further lowered towards the base **125**. The clip engagement urges the collar sections **110**, **115** together around the streetlight pole **105** (which is eliminated in FIG. **6** for visibility).

At block **630** and as illustrated in corresponding FIGS. **6C** and **6E**, the clips **175**, **176** are fully engaged, with spring force of the clips **175**, **176** closing the collar sections **110**, **115** around the streetlight pole **105**. As discussed above with reference to FIGS. **2** and **5**, inter alia, a system of locating features facilitates proper alignment of the collar section **115** onto the base **125** as the collar section **115** is lowered.

Once the collar section **115** is positioned and the clips **175**, **176** are engaged, the installer typically utilizes a ratchet wrench **505** or other appropriate tool or machine to tighten the collar mounting bolts **205**. When the system of fasteners holding the base **125**, the streetlight pole **105**, and the collar sections **110**, **115** are in place, the installer may close the door **130** and tighten the screw **135**, thereby placing the streetlight mounting system **100** and the streetlight in an operational configuration.

Referring now to FIG. **7**, FIGS. **7A** and **7B** illustrate water shedding features between the two collar sections **110**, **115** of the streetlight mounting system **100**. One of the two collar sections **110**, **115** overlaps the other at a juncture **710** where the two collar sections **110**, **115** meet. In some embodiments, gasket material may be deployed at the juncture **710** for supplemental environmental protection. In certain embodiments, such gasket material is located in a groove in one or both of the collar sections **110**, **115**. In FIG. **7B**, the collar section **115** is rendered substantially transparent to promote reader visualization.

FIGS. **8A** and **8B** illustrate water shedding features between the streetlight pole **105** and the two collar sections **110**, **115** of the streetlight mounting system **100**. In the illustrated embodiment, the collar sections **110**, **115** comprise a channel in which gasket material **810** is disposed. The gasket material **810** thus circumscribes the streetlight pole **105** to block entry of water into the enclosure. The gasket material **810** may be formed of silicone or other suitable material, for example.

Technology for mounting streetlights has been described. From the description, it will be appreciated that embodiments of the present technology overcome limitations of the prior art. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the present technology is not limited to any specifically discussed application or implementation and that the embodiments described herein are illustrative and not restrictive. From the description of the exemplary embodiments, equivalents of the elements shown therein will suggest themselves to those skilled in the art, and ways of constructing other embodiments of the present technology will appear to practitioners of the art.

What is claimed is:

1. A streetlight mounting system comprising:
a base comprising:
a lower portion operable to attach to a surface adjacent
an area to be illuminated; and
an upper portion operable to attach to a streetlight pole;
and
a collar system comprising:
a first collar section that arches adjacent a first circum-
ferential portion of the streetlight pole;
a second collar section that arches adjacent a second
circumferential portion of the streetlight pole;
a first clip attached to the first collar section; and
a second clip attached to the second collar section,
wherein the first clip and the second clip are configured
to engage one another to urge the first collar section
and the second collar section together about the street-
light pole.
2. The streetlight mounting system of claim 1, wherein the
first clip and the second clip are L-shaped and comprise
spring steel.
3. The streetlight mounting system of claim 1, wherein the
first collar section comprises a first groove adjacent the first
circumferential portion of the streetlight pole,
wherein the second collar section comprises a second
groove adjacent the second circumferential portion of
the streetlight pole, and
wherein the streetlight mounting system further comprises
gasket material disposed in the first and second grooves.
4. The streetlight mounting system of claim 3, wherein the
first collar section and the second collar section adjoin one
another along a vertically extending juncture at which the first
collar section overlaps the second collar section.
5. The streetlight mounting system of claim 1, wherein the
base comprises at least one protrusion, and
wherein the first collar section comprises at least one aper-
ture sized to receive the at least one protrusion for align-
ing the first collar section with the base.
6. The streetlight mounting system of claim 5, wherein the
base comprises at least one more protrusion, and
wherein the second collar section comprises at least one
more aperture sized to receive the at least one more
protrusion for aligning the second collar section with the
base.
7. The streetlight mounting system of claim 1, wherein the
first and second collar sections comprise a plurality of pro-
trusions, and
wherein the base comprises a plurality of apertures sized
according to the plurality of protrusions for aligning the
first and second collar sections with the base.
8. The streetlight mounting system of claim 1, wherein an
uppermost portion of the first collar section and an uppermost
portion of the second collar section collectively circumscribe
the streetlight pole at an acute angle relative to an axis of the
streetlight pole.
9. The streetlight mounting system of claim 8, wherein the
acute angle is operable to shed water.
10. The streetlight mounting system of claim 1, wherein
when the streetlight mounting system is in an operational
configuration, all fasteners that couple the first collar section,
the second collar section, the base, and the streetlight pole
together are hidden from view.
11. The streetlight mounting system of claim 1, wherein
first bolts that are accessible through a door of the base are
configured for fastening the streetlight pole to the upper por-
tion of the base,

- wherein second bolts that are accessible through the door
of the base are configured for fastening the collar system
to the upper portion of the base, and
wherein the first collar section and the second collar sec-
tion comprise inward facing ribs that enhance structural
integrity.
12. A streetlight mounting system comprising:
a base comprising:
a lower portion operable to attach to a street side surface;
and
an upper portion operable to attach to a lower end of a
streetlight pole; and
a collar extending upward from the upper portion of the
base and tapering towards the streetlight pole, an upper-
most portion of the collar circumscribing the streetlight
pole at an acute angle relative to an axis of the streetlight
pole, the collar comprising:
a first section curving past a first circumferential portion
of the streetlight pole; and
a second section curving past a second circumferential
portion of the streetlight pole,
wherein the first section and the second section collectively
circumscribe the streetlight pole,
wherein a system of protrusions and apertures align the
first and second sections to the upper portion of the base,
and
wherein the first section and the second section each com-
prises inward facing ribs extending horizontally.
 13. The streetlight mounting system of claim 12, wherein
the acute angle is operable to shed water.
 14. The streetlight mounting system of claim 12, wherein
when the streetlight mounting system is in an operational
configuration, all fasteners that couple the first section, the
second section, the base, and the streetlight pole together are
hidden from view.
 15. A streetlight mounting system comprising:
a base comprising:
a lower portion operable to attach to a street side surface;
and
an upper portion operable to attach to a lower end of a
streetlight pole; and
a collar extending upward from the upper portion of the
base and tapering towards the streetlight pole, an upper-
most portion of the collar circumscribing the streetlight
pole at an acute angle relative to an axis of the streetlight
pole, the collar comprising:
a first section curving past a first circumferential portion
of the streetlight pole; and
a second section curving past a second circumferential
portion of the streetlight pole,
wherein the collar further comprises:
a first clip attached to the first section; and
a second clip attached to the second section, and
wherein the first clip and the second clip are configured to
engage one another to urge the first section and the
second section together about the streetlight pole.
 16. A streetlight mounting system comprising:
a base comprising:
a bottom that attaches to a surface; and
a top that attaches to a proximal end of a streetlight pole;
a collar extending around the streetlight pole and tapering
from the top of the base to the streetlight pole; and
a fastener system that holds the base, the streetlight pole,
and the collar together; that is hidden from view when
the streetlight mounting system is in an operational con-
figuration; and that comprises:

first fasteners holding the streetlight pole to the base;
 second fasteners holding the collar to the base; and
 third fasteners holding the collar around the streetlight
 pole.

17. The streetlight mounting system of claim **16**, wherein 5
 the base comprises a door,
 wherein the door provides access to the first fasteners, the
 second fasteners, and the third fasteners,
 wherein the third fasteners comprise a first clip and a sec-
 ond clip, 10
 wherein the collar comprises:
 a first section that extends partially about the streetlight
 pole and that comprises the first clip; and
 a second section that extends partially about the stree-
 tlight pole and that comprises the second clip, and 15
 wherein the first clip and the second clip are configured to
 engage one another to urge the first collar section and the
 second collar section together about the streetlight pole.

18. The streetlight mounting system of claim **16**, wherein 20
 the first fasteners comprise first bolts,
 wherein the second fasteners comprise second bolts, and
 wherein the third fasteners comprise clips that urge sec-
 tions of the collar together.

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